

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:  
receiving at least one ACH transaction from a one of a payroll vendor and a client;  
verifying the at least one ACH transaction;  
executing the at least one ACH transaction; and  
limiting financial risk.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein limiting financial risk includes requiring a direct debit procedure.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one ACH transaction is received in a single batch from the client.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
forecasting available funds for an account.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:  
establishing predetermined types of investment objectives.
6. The method of claim 4 further comprising:  
investing available funds based on forecasted availability.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
accumulating tax payment data for off site back up.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the verification of the at least one ACH transaction includes comparing year to date transaction data.
9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
assuming by a service provider of liability for non sufficient fund returned items on behalf of the payroll vendor.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
notifying the client regarding one of negative and positive tax balances.
11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
testing files for one of an additional client and missing client.
12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
verifying one of an additional employee and an additional bank account.
13. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
placing available funds in a trust management system.
14. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
using a double entry accounting system in processing transactions.
15. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
contracting directly with the client by a service provider.
16. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
allowing the client to use a federal reserve bank account number of a service provider.
17. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
testing files for duplicate client batches for a payroll check date.
18. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
separating a set of charges between the payroll vendor and the client.
19. The method of claim 1, wherein all ACH transactions are received in a single file per client from the vendor and a single debit is generated.

20. A method comprising:
  - receiving a file containing ACH related data;
  - checking the ACH related data for erroneous data;
  - determining a risk management scheme for the ACH related data; and
  - processing the ACH related data according to the risk management scheme.
21. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
  - verifying the ACH related data against prior transaction history data.
22. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
  - checking the ACH related data for one of an additional client and a missing client.